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ABSTRACT

This book, created by three reference librarians, teaches the beginning researcher good research habits. It provides names of tools students should consult for a well-rounded, well-researched paper on a controversial issue in the news. Books, specialized databases, online resources, and agencies to contact are all included. Each "jumpstart" has been student tested at Kingwood College Library. The current topics used were chosen for their wide appeal, permanence, and controversy. This quick-start guide pinpoints the best sources on the hottest topics for high school and junior college students. Each topic is divided into the following sections: "Search Terms," subject headings and keywords that can be used for searching the library catalog, periodical indexes, and the Internet; "Food for Thought," definitions and explanations of and questions about a topic, suggesting various avenues for the researcher to explore; "Background and Statistics," suggested relevant reference books to aid the user in gathering basic information; "The Library Catalog," a list of specific Library of Congress and Sears subject headings students can use in searching the catalog; "Magazines and Newspapers," a suggested list of periodical and newspaper indexes that students can consult; "Internet," specific Internet addresses and suggested ways to find more Web sites using search engines; and "Agencies To Contact," names, addresses, and phone numbers of government agencies, private organizations, and foundations that may be helpful. A section on tips for searching on the Web is included, with solutions provided to sample problems, as well as a chart of search techniques for the Web that identifies type of search, example, and description. Includes a subject directory and index. (Contains 291 references.) (AEF)

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